BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING MARCH 18, 2021 MINUTES

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK CAPASSO:

"IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, AND POSTED, THAT A WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR THE EIGHTEENTH DAY OF MARCH, 2021, WITH THE WORK SESSION TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:30 P.M. AND THE REGULAR MEETING TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AT THE LAKEHURST COMMUNITY CENTER, 207 CENTER STREET, LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE BOROUGH WILL BE CONDUCTED."

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMAN DAVIS: ABSENT COUNCILMAN LOWE: PRESENT COUNCILMAN DIMEO: PRESENT COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: ABSENT COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:32 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:32 p.m.

Councilwoman Hodges reported the Ordinance Committee has been "in touch" with Coded Systems. Mrs. Hodges stated the committee is moving forward with putting the ordinances together adding they will present a clean copy for the Mayor and Council to review and adopt.

Council President Oglesby commented on the correspondence from the Lakehurst Volunteer Fire Company adding the fire company also needs approval from Police Chief Kline.

Mr. Oglesby reported Senator Booker's office is interested in acquiring a mutual aid agreement for the borough and the base for both fire and EMS. Mr. Oglesby stated the original 2008 mutual aid agreement states the base will respond to all working structural fires adding Senator Booker would like to expand the agreement to all fire calls and all first aid calls. Mr. Oglesby also stated the agreement is not to take the place of both fire and first aid departments but to work in support with the departments.

Councilman Lowe suggested that the police chief be involved with the mutual aid agreement planning.

Mr. Oglesby stated one of the challenges is convincing the attorneys. Mr. Oglesby further stated that when the government looks at potential base closures, one of things they look at is how well the base interacts with the neighboring municipalities adding the mutual aid agreement would be a benefit for both.

Representatives for 6 Union Avenue spoke in regard to the demolition of the building on the property.

Attorney Joseph Coronato stated he and Engineer Massimo Yezzi are here tonight to explain where they were at with the demolish, their plans for the property and to answer any questions the Mayor or Council may have. Mr. Coranato explained they have begun the Certificate of Filing application with the Pinelands adding there are quite a few steps to the process.

Mayor Robbins asked "what step" they were on.

Mr. Coronato answered that they were on step one which is filling out the application and gathering materials that need to be summited with the application. Mr. Coronato stated he had asked the Pinelands to expedite the application adding the Pinelands said they will try to do so.

Mr. Oglesby asked if the Pinelands are aware that the building is a hazard and imminent danger of collapsing.

Mr. Coronato answered in the affirmative. Mr. Coronato stated he took pictures of the building to be sent with the application.

Mayor Robbins asked the name of the person they have spoke with at the Pinelands adding he himself will reach out to them to make them aware that this building cannot be restored and that it needs to come down as soon as possible.

Mr. Yezzi explained the owner plans to build a two and a half story building with retail space on the first floor and two and a half apartments on the second floor. Mr. Yezzi further explained there will be off-street parking in the rear. Mr. Yezzi stated this is a concept only and added the intent tonight is to show the owner is committed to removing the building.

Mr. Coronato stated to access the parking in the rear, the property will need to have cross access to the borough parking lot.

Mayor Robbins stated he and the council are happy to hear the owner is in the process of removing the building and added the plans for a new building will have to go in front of the Land Use Board.

Mr. Coronato thanked the Mayor and Council for their time and added they can reach him at any time if they should have questions.

ADJOURNMENT OF WORK SESSION:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby Seconded by: Gary Lowe To adjourn work session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by: Patricia Hodges Seconded by: Brian DiMeo To approve minutes of March 4, 2021 Regular Meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters to be considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

A. RESOLUTIONS:

- 1. Resolution #21-060 re: Payment of Bills
- 2. Resolution #21-061 re: Adjustment to Utility Bill for Block 44, Lot 1
- 3. Resolution #21-062 re: Appointment of Land Use Board Member
- 4. Resolution #21-063 re: Immediate Repeal of Senate Bill No. 3454

B. CORRESPONDENCE:

Lakehurst Volunteer Fire Company requesting to solicit for the year 2021.

Motion by: Steven Oglesby Seconded by: Gary Lowe To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative with the exception of Council warmen Hadron who world no to Passelytion #21,062

of Councilwoman Hodges who voted no to Resolution #21-063.

Mayor Robbins asked Councilwoman Hodges her thoughts as to why she voted no to Resolution #21-063.

Councilwoman Hodges replied there needs to be more discussions on the matter adding she agrees changes need to be made but one resolution is not the way to go about it.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hodges reported the Finance Committee will be reaching out to Wayne Sibilia, Chief Financial Officer, to discuss the budget.

Councilman DiMeo reported the Youth and Recreation Committee will be "delivering" Easter Eggs to participants who registered in lieu of the Annual Egg Hunt.

Councilman Lowe reported internet service has been installed at the community center and added it will be installed at the water plant later this month.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins reported the Borough of Lakehurst will receiving \$266,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act and asked the council to think of ideas for improvements.

Councilwoman Hodges complimented the new street signs.

Councilman DiMeo stated a resident approached him in regard to the shut off values at the curb adding that they are high and are a tripping hazard.

Mayor Robbins stated he will reach out to Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 8:02 p.m.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 8:02 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: Gary Lowe Seconded by: Patricia Hodges To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:02 p.m.

Maryanne Capasso, RMC Municipal Clerk